THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cryptographic device comprising:

a cryptographic module and a communications module removably coupled thereto;

said cryptographic module comprising a first housing and a first connector carried thereby;

said communications module comprising a second housing and a second connector carried thereby and being removably mateable with said first connector of said cryptographic module.

2. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 wherein said first housing comprises a first body and a first extension extending outwardly therefrom; wherein said second housing comprises a second body and a second extension extending outwardly therefrom; and wherein said first and second extensions are aligned in overlapping relation when said first and second connectors are mated together.

3. The cryptographic device of Claim 2 wherein said first connecter is carried by said first body adjacent said first extension; and wherein said second connector is carried by said second extension.

4. The cryptographic device of Claim 2 wherein each of said first and second extensions have surface features on opposing surfaces thereof to slidably engage and guide said cryptographic and communications modules together in mating relation.

5. The cryptographic device of Claim 4 wherein said surface features define at least one slidable interlocking joint therebetween.

6. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 further comprising at least one fastener for removably fastening said cryptographic and communications modules together.

7. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 wherein said at least one fastener comprises at least one captive screw.

8. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 wherein said communications module comprises a predetermined one from among a plurality of interchangeable communications modules each for communicating over a different communications media.

9. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 wherein said communications module further comprises a network communications interface carried by said second housing and coupled to said second connector.

10. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 wherein said first and second connectors each comprise multi-pin electrical connectors.

11. The cryptographic device of Claim 1 further comprising at least one seal between said cryptographic module and said communications module.

12. A cryptographic device comprising:

a cryptographic module, a communications module removably coupled to said cryptographic module, and at least one fastener for removably fastening said cryptographic and communications modules together;

said cryptographic module comprising a first housing and a first connector carried thereby, said first housing comprising a first body and a first extension extending outwardly therefrom;

said communications module comprising a second housing and a second connector carried thereby, said second housing comprising a second body and a second extension extending outwardly therefrom;

said second connector being removably mateable with said first connector of said cryptographic module, and said first and second extensions being aligned in overlapping relation when said first and second connectors are mated together.

13. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein said first connecter is carried by said first body adjacent said first extension; and wherein said second connector is carried by said second extension.

14. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein each of said first and second extensions have surface features on opposing surfaces thereof to slidably engage and guide said cryptographic and communications modules together in mating relation.

15. The cryptographic device of Claim 14 wherein said surface features define at least one slidable interlocking joint therebetween.

16. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein said at least one fastener comprises at least one captive screw.

17. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein said communications module comprises a predetermined one from among a plurality of interchangeable communications modules each for communicating over a different communications media.

18. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein said communications module further comprises a network communications interface carried by said second housing and coupled to said second connector.

19. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 wherein said first and second connectors each comprise multi-pin electrical connectors.

20. The cryptographic device of Claim 12 further comprising at least one seal between said cryptographic module and said communications module.

21. A communications method comprising:

coupling a cryptographic module to a network device, the cryptographic module comprising a first housing and a first connector carried thereby;

providing a communications module comprising a second housing and a second connector carried thereby with the second connector of the communications module being removably mated with the first connector of the cryptographic module; and

using the communications module to communicate with a network.

22. The method of Claim 21 wherein the first housing comprises a first body and a first extension extending outwardly therefrom; wherein the second housing comprises a second body and a second extension extending outwardly therefrom; and wherein the first and second extensions are aligned in overlapping relation when the first and second connections are mated together.

23. The method of Claim 22 wherein the first connecter is carried by the first body adjacent the first extension; and wherein the second connector is carried by the second extension.

24. The method of Claim 22 wherein each of the first and second extensions have surface features on opposing surfaces thereof to slidably engage and guide the cryptographic and communications modules together in mating relation.

25. The method of Claim 24 wherein the surface features define at least one slidable interlocking joint therebetween.

26. The method of Claim 21 further comprising removably fastening the cryptographic and communications modules together.

27. The method of Claim 21 further comprising positioning at least one seal between the cryptographic module and the communications module.

28. A communications system comprising:

a plurality of network devices coupled together to define a network, and a cryptographic device coupled to at least one of said network devices;

said cryptographic device comprising a cryptographic module coupled to said at least one network device, and a communications module removably coupled to said cryptographic module;

said cryptographic module comprising a first housing and a first connector carried thereby;

said communications module comprising a second housing and a second connector carried thereby and being removably mateable with said first connector of said cryptographic module.

29. The communications system of Claim 28 wherein said first housing comprises a first body and a first extension extending outwardly therefrom; wherein said second housing comprises a second body and a second extension extending outwardly therefrom; and wherein said first and second extensions are aligned in overlapping relation when said first and second connectors are mated together.

30. The communications system of Claim 29 wherein said first connecter is carried by said first body adjacent said first extension; and wherein said second connector is carried by said second extension.

31. The communications system of Claim 29 wherein each of said first and second extensions have surface features on opposing surfaces thereof to slidably engage and guide said cryptographic and communications modules together in mating relation.

32. The communications system of Claim 31 wherein said surface features define at least one slidable interlocking joint therebetween.

33. The communications system of Claim 28 further comprising at least one fastener for removably fastening said cryptographic and communications modules together.

34. The communications system of Claim 33 wherein said at least one fastener comprises at least one captive screw.

35. The communications system of Claim 28 wherein said cryptographic module further comprises:

a user network interface carried by said first housing; and

a cryptographic processor carried by said first housing and coupled to said user network interface and said first connector.

36. The communications system of Claim 28 wherein said communications module further comprises a network communications interface carried by said second housing and coupled to said second connector.

37. The communications system of Claim 28 wherein said first and second connectors each comprise multi-pin electrical connectors.

38. The communications system of Claim 28 further comprising at least one seal between said cryptographic module and said communications module.